



February 8, 2017

## Indianapolis Metropolitan Withdraws from Boys Basketball Tournament

Indianapolis Metropolitan High School has informed the Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc. that it is withdrawing from this year's IHSAA Boys Basketball State Tournament after self-reporting multiple violations committed by its boys basketball program.

In a letter to Commissioner Bobby Cox, the school detailed the violations and subsequently recommended their team's removal. In addition to withdrawing from this year's boys basketball state tournament, the following determinations have been made by the IHSAA:

1. The Indianapolis Metropolitan boys' basketball program is placed on probation throughout the remainder of this school year and the entire 2017-18 school year. Probation is a severe type warning indicating serious violations have occurred, is a matter of record and shall not occur in the future. Repeated violations by the school may result in suspension of membership from the IHSAA.
2. A student athlete participated in multiple contests while in violation of Rule 4-1 (Maximum Age of Student Athletes) of the IHSAA by-laws. This student is declared ineligible immediately. All contests at any level where this student participated shall be forfeited. The opposing schools shall be notified of this violation.
3. A student athlete participated in multiple contests while in violation of Rules 12 (Enrollment), 19 (Transfer Eligibility) and 50 (Minimum Number of Required Practices Before Competition). The student is declared ineligible immediately. All contests at any level where this student participated shall be forfeited. The opposing schools shall be notified of these violations.
4. Head Coach Lee Jackson is severely reprimanded for allowing these violations to occur. Ignorance of the rules is not an acceptable excuse for multiple rules violations.

The Indianapolis Metropolitan High School administration is commended for its reporting of this matter and its self-imposed sanctions which are firmly supported by the IHSAA.

Indianapolis Metropolitan, first admitted to the Association as a member school in 2006 and first eligible for state tournament competition in 2008-09, is one of 410 voluntary members who subscribe to uphold the by-laws and policies of the Association.

With the school's withdrawal from the state tournament, Class A, Sectional 58 hosted by University High School, becomes a six-team sectional with two first round games played on Tuesday, Feb. 28, two semifinal games on Friday, March 3 and the championship game on Saturday, March 4. Pairings for the state tournament will be announced Sunday, Feb. 19 at 5 pm ET / 4 pm CT.

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### **About the Indiana High School Athletic Association, Inc. (IHSAA)**

*The IHSAA is a voluntary, not-for-profit organization that is self-supporting without the use of tax monies. Since its founding in 1903, the Association's mission has been to provide wholesome, educational athletics for the secondary schools of Indiana. Its member high schools - public, institutional, parochial and private - pay no annual membership fee or incur entry fees to play in the Association's tournaments. A state tournament series is conducted annually in 21 sports, 10 for girls, 10 for boys and one co-ed (unified track and field). A 19-person board of directors, elected by member school principals, governs the organization.*

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